

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 MCT-01 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 COME-00 ACDA-07

IO-13 A-01 /101 W

-----027279 010928Z /15

P 010850Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9787

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 11542

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS JA

SUBJECT: TERRORIST THREATS AGAINST US MOVIE DISTRIBUTOR

REF: STATE 176246

1. ACCORDING TO LOCAL WARNER BROS REPRESENTATIVE, UPON LEARNING "BLACK SUNDAY" WOULD BE RELEASED IN JAPAN PLO REPS DEMANDED AND RECEIVED PRESCREENING FROM JAPANESE DISTRIBUTOR, CINEMA INTERNATIONAL CORP (CIC). AFTER VIEWING, PLO DECLARED FILM ANTI-ARAB AND DEMANDED IT BE BANNED. CIC REQUESTED MOFA GUIDANCE WITH RESPECT TO "POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS," BUT WERE MERELY TOLD THEY HAD CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO SHOW FILM.

2. ON JULY 18, AFTER CIC INDICATED INTENT TO SHOW "BLACK SUNDAY," TOHO THEATER CHAIN RECEIVED THREE THREATENING POST CARDS. CIC ALSO RECEIVED ARAB LEAGUE PROTEST NOTE. TOHO CANCELLED CIC CONTRACT, DECLINING TO TAKE PUBLIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY CONSEQUENT VIOLENCE.

2. SIMILAR PATTERN OCCURRED IN DECEMBER 1976 REGARDING "VICTORY AT ENTEBBE." STRONG ARAB THREATS AND "SIREN BOMBS" PLANTED IN SEVERAL THEATERS PROMPTED  
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MOFA TO REQUEST CIC TO WITHDRAW FILM. FILM WAS CANCELLED ONE WEEK AHEAD OF SCHEDULE DUE TO "POOR ATTENDANCE." HOWEVER, WARNER BROS SOURCE CLAIMS ATTENDANCE WAS GOOD AND THAT SO MOVIE IN JAPAN HAD EVER BEEN CANCELLED DUE TO POOR ATTENDANCE BEFORE.

3. ITSUO ARAKI, CIC MANAGER, CLAIMS THERE WAS NO JAPAN  
RED ARMY (JRA) INVOLVEMENT. LOCAL SOURCES INDICATE  
LITTLE CHANCE OF ACTIVE JRA ROLE.  
MANSFIELD

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** THREATS, MOTION PICTURES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977TOKYO11542  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
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**Enclosure:** DG ALTERED  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** TERRORIST THREATS AGAINST US MOVIE DISTRIBUTOR  
**TAGS:** PINS, SCUL, JA, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009